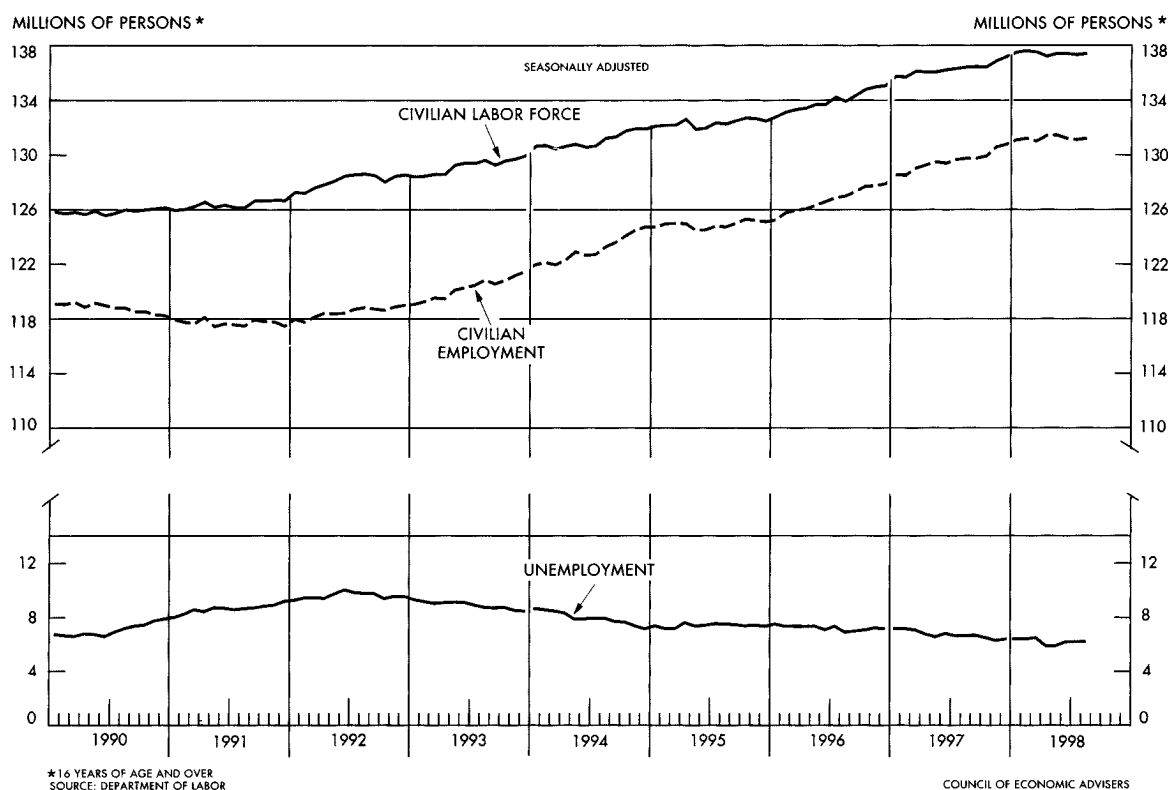


EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In August, employment rose by 101,000, and unemployment rose by 17,000.



[Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over, except as noted; monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted by NSA]

Period	Civilian noninstitutional population NSA	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment				Unemployment			Percent ²		
			Total	Agricul-tural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over	Not in labor force	Labor force partici-pation rate	Employ-ment/ pop-ulation ratio	Unem-ploy-ment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons ¹						
1988	184,613	121,669	114,968	3,169	111,800	4,965	6,701	1,610	62,944	65.9	62.3	5.5
1989	186,393	123,869	117,342	3,199	114,142	4,657	6,528	1,375	62,523	66.5	63.0	5.3
1990 ³	189,164	125,840	118,793	3,223	115,570	4,950	7,047	1,525	63,324	66.5	62.8	5.6
1991	190,925	126,346	117,718	3,269	114,449	5,874	8,628	2,357	64,578	66.2	61.7	6.8
1992	192,805	128,105	118,492	3,247	115,245	6,240	9,613	3,408	64,700	66.4	61.5	7.5
1993	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	6,230	8,940	3,094	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 ⁴	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	4,414	7,996	2,860	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	4,279	7,404	2,363	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	4,123	7,236	2,316	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 ³	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	3,879	6,739	2,062	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1997: Aug	203,364	136,404	129,747	3,379	126,368	3,832	6,657	2,027	66,960	67.1	63.8	4.9
Sept	203,570	136,439	129,761	3,422	126,339	3,739	6,678	2,109	67,131	67.0	63.7	4.9
Oct	203,767	136,406	129,910	3,327	126,583	3,732	6,496	1,990	67,361	66.9	63.8	4.8
Nov	203,941	136,864	130,575	3,384	127,191	3,689	6,289	1,865	67,077	67.1	64.0	4.6
Dec	204,098	137,169	130,777	3,385	127,392	3,654	6,392	1,964	66,929	67.2	64.1	4.7
1998: Jan ³	204,238	137,493	131,083	3,319	127,764	3,865	6,409	1,811	66,745	67.3	64.2	4.7
Feb	204,400	137,557	131,163	3,335	127,829	3,743	6,393	1,830	66,844	67.3	64.2	4.6
Mar	204,547	137,523	130,994	3,132	127,862	3,726	6,529	1,731	67,024	67.2	64.0	4.7
Apr	204,731	137,242	131,383	3,350	128,033	3,608	5,859	1,417	67,489	67.0	64.2	4.3
May	204,899	137,364	131,453	3,335	128,118	3,630	5,910	1,462	67,535	67.0	64.2	4.3
June	205,085	137,447	131,209	3,343	127,867	3,676	6,237	1,621	67,639	67.0	64.0	4.5
July	205,270	137,296	131,067	3,441	127,626	3,632	6,230	1,600	67,973	66.9	63.9	4.5
Aug	205,479	137,415	131,168	3,529	127,640	3,307	6,247	1,647	68,064	66.9	63.8	4.5

¹Persons at work. Economic reasons include slack work, material shortages, inability to find fulltime work, etc.

²Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.

³Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

⁴Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods because of a major redesign of the household survey questionnaire.

NOTE.—Data beginning January 1998 reflect new composite estimation procedures and revised population controls. See *Employment and Earnings*, February 1998, for details.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.